

ND Project Management Newsletter

Your prime source of Project Management News

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Thank you for taking the time to read the *North Dakota Project Management Newsletter*! The purpose of this newsletter is to bring you information about project management-related topics and events in North Dakota Government and Higher Education.

Four More Attain Project Management Professional (PMP®) Credential

(Newtown Square, Pennsylvania USA) – The Project Management Institute (PMI®), the world's leading not-for-profit professional association for project management, is proud to announce the following candidates have earned the designation of Project Management Professional (PMP®):

- Heather Raschke – Job Service North Dakota
- Dave Eckenrode – Information Technology Department
- Jeannine Wohl – Information Technology Department
- Shawn Meier – Information Technology Department

The PMP® Certification is the project management profession's most recognized and respected global credential. There are over 110,000 PMP's® worldwide located in almost 120 countries. To obtain PMP® certification, an individual must satisfy education and experience requirements, agree to adhere to a Professional Code of Conduct, and pass the PMP® Certification Examination.

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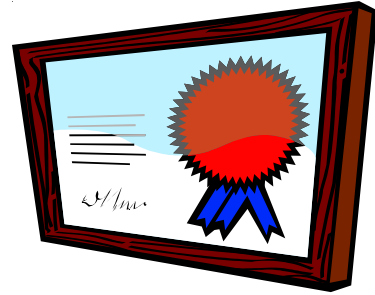
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NITAS mentors earn certification and several North Dakota state employees are selected for NITAS apprenticeship program.

NITAS Mentors Attain Certification

In October, the National IT Apprenticeship System (NITAS) project contracted with project management consultant/trainer John Aaron to conduct mentoring sessions with the existing mentor team to qualify each individual for NITAS certification. This process was based on previous projects conducted by individual project managers. Although the work is not finished, and Aaron will continue to meet with our mentors during November and December, we are proud to announce the following NITAS certifications to date:



Level 1 – Pam Anderson, Dave Eckenrode, Dirk Huggett, Shawn Meier, Mark Molesworth, Heather Raschke, Roger Wetzel, Jeannine Wohl

Level 2 – Pam Anderson, Dave Eckenrode, Dirk Huggett, Mark Molesworth, Heather Raschke, Roger Wetzel, Jeannine Wohl

Level 3 – Pam Anderson, Dave Eckenrode, Dirk Huggett, Heather Raschke, Jeannine Wohl

First NITAS Apprentice Group Selected

After reviewing the apprenticeship interest survey results, the mentor group embarked on the difficult task of determining who would be selected as the first apprentices. Recognizing that there are only nine mentors, the group took advantage of both one-to-one and group mentoring relationships to maximize this opportunity, resulting in the selection of 12 apprentices. They are:

Geoffrey Lowe – DHS
Jessica Rossow – JSND
Joann Marsh – BND
Todd Metzger – DOT
Barb Solberg – NDUS
Mike Ressler – ITD
Brent Larson – ITD
Gary Vetter – ITD
Darrin Lee – ITD
John Sheldon – ITD
Mike Eslinger – ITD
Brandy Peterson – ITD

A group kickoff session was scheduled on November 22, 2005.

We look forward to working with this eager group of project managers. The next time you see them, please take a moment to congratulate them on this new challenge.

Those who indicated an interest in pursuing an apprenticeship, but were not selected to the initial group, will be placed on a waiting list to be assigned as existing mentors become available or new mentors are trained. Thank you for your interest and patience.

PM Training

All listed training will qualify
for NITAS Project Management
classroom hours with
your submitted “proof of
attendance.”

Final NITAS Project Management Training Classes Scheduled

The final two 24-hour project management training courses are scheduled for November 28-30, 2005 and December 14-16, 2005. We anticipate training the remainder of our waiting list, but we do not expect to schedule another course for quite some time. Since there is still room available, do not let this opportunity slip away.

We have negotiated a pricing structure with CompTIA that allows us to capitalize on a fixed price based on volume. The highest cost an individual can expect to pay is \$1,250.00 per seat. If we are able to secure a minimum of 25 attendees per course, that price will reduce to \$1,000.00 per seat, a considerable savings from the original per-seat cost of \$1,375.00. For additional information, contact Mark Molesworth at epmadmin@nd.gov. This opportunity is only available to employees of the State of North Dakota, including Higher Education, and the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches.

Mastering Microsoft Project

This two-day, hands-on course will be offered by CompuMaster on January 23-24, 2006, in Bismarck, North Dakota. The high level agenda will include:

- The Essentials of Project Management
- Planning the Project
- Assigning Resources – People, Equipment and Material
- Tracking and Managing Your Project
- Views and Reports
- Integrating Project with Other Office Applications
- Working with Multiple Projects
- Understanding Project Server



The cost is \$499.00 per person; \$449 each for four or more on the same registration. Additional information and registration options can be found on the CompuMaster website at www.compumaster.net.

PM Articles

Findings from a national
survey indicate that project
management plays a key role
in project success.

NASCIO Releases Discipline Succeeds: Findings from the NASCIO State IT Project Management Assessment

(Lexington, KY) – Billions of dollars are spent on government IT projects every year and state CIOs have the bulk of responsibility for them. Although many have good track records, project success rates have great room for improvement. States have demonstrated that applying the discipline of project management (PM) can greatly increase project success, but there is still much to be done. This premise served as the impetus behind the National Association of State Chief Information Officers' (NASCIO) 2005 survey of state information technology (IT) project management practices.

Findings from the survey have just been released in *Discipline Succeeds: Findings from the NASCIO State IT Project Management Assessment*. Thirty-four state project management offices participated in the self-assessment from August-September 2005. The trends found in their responses set the baseline for state IT project management progress. Please see the report on NASCIO's new IT project management webpage at <https://www.nascio.org/nascioCommittees/projectManagement/>. An executive summary is included at the beginning of the document.

Throughout the report, several core themes emerge as recommendations for success of state IT initiatives:

- There is value in adopting an enterprise approach toward IT investments.
- Given the complexity of implementing IT projects both within and across state agencies, clarifying the governance structure during the initiation phase of the project is essential.
- Organizational change management must be viewed as an integral component of project management.
- Enterprise portfolio management can facilitate the alignment of statewide IT investments with a state's goals and objectives and enterprise architecture.
- Actively supporting career advancement for project managers within the state through project management training and certification programs enhances continuous improvement.

The survey and report are two primary deliverables from NASCIO's new state IT Project Management Forum, an information exchange for state PM leaders. Key findings from the self-assessment and recommended action items for NASCIO and state CIO offices are listed within the report per survey subtopic area. Subtopics include: PMO structures, governing statewide and multi-agency projects, organizational change management, project portfolio change management, strategic

alignment with state IT strategic plans, PM certification and training programs, and PM career paths in state government.

“It has been proven that sound project management practices significantly improve the success rates of IT implementations,” said Matt Miszewski, Wisconsin CIO and NASCIO 2005-06 president. “NASCIO is the right place to determine the progress toward improving states’ project management practices and to learn from each other as this discipline continues to advance. Support of the State IT Project Management Forum allows us to make the most of our members’ experience.”

NASCIO represents state chief information officers and information resource executives and managers from the 50 states, U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia. State members are senior officials from any of the three branches of state government who have executive-level and statewide responsibility for information resource management. Representatives from federal, municipal, and international governments participate in the organization as associate members. Private-sector firms and non-profit organizations may join as corporate members.



PM Challenge

PM Glossary

*Find the hidden words
listed below in the puzzle:*

**DELIVERABLE
CONTINGENCY
ASSUMPTION
BUDGET
VARIANCE
PROCESSES
PROCUREMENT
QUALITY
RISK
SCOPE**

E	N	S	I	L	P	R	O	C	U	R	E	M	E	N	T	M
V	A	C	P	P	O	B	U	D	G	E	T	D	E	L	J	E
A	C	O	R	U	A	R	S	Q	U	A	L	I	T	Y	M	R
R	O	P	O	D	V	F	T	N	G	E	Q	Y	Z	A	I	U
I	N	E	C	W	S	O	H	I	B	N	J	E	U	O	P	C
A	T	D	E	L	I	V	E	R	A	B	L	E	X	T	U	K
N	I	A	S	R	S	A	S	S	U	M	P	T	I	O	N	O
C	N	P	S	C	X	T	U	K	L	M	R	D	V	F	T	N
E	G	G	E	U	F	U	N	B	R	A	I	N	W	S	O	H
I	E	Q	S	Y	Z	A	I	B	I	L	M	A	D	P	E	O
E	N	N	I	L	M	A	P	R	O	D	E	L	J	E	U	A
R	C	S	M	R	D	V	F	I	T	N	G	E	Q	Y	Z	A
I	Y	U	W	S	O	H	I	S	B	N	J	E	U	O	P	C
X	T	U	K	A	R	S	O	K	P	C	X	T	U	K	L	M
R	D	V	F	T	N	G	U	F	U	N	B	R	A	I	N	W
S	O	H	I	Q	Y	Z	A	I	B	I	L	M	A	D	P	E
O	E	N	I	L	M	A	P	O	D	E	L	J	E	U	A	R

PM Around The Globe

See how countries around the globe utilize Project Management by visiting the following links:

Association for Project Management (APM) – United Kingdom
<http://www.apm.org.uk/>

Australian Institute of Project Management (AIPM) – Australia
<http://www.aipm.com.au/html/default.cfm>

Project Management South Africa (PMISA) – South Africa
<http://www.pmisa.org.za/>



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